

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner withdrew the rejection of claims 24, 27, 34, and 40. The Board's Decision noted and adopted the Examiner's determination that claims 24, 27, 34, and 40 were objected to solely as depending from a rejected claim and would be allowable if re-written in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 4 and 24, claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 20 and 27, claim 33 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 34, and claim 39 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 40. Claims 4, 20, 24, 27, 34, and 40 have been canceled accordingly. Claims 35 and 41 have been amended to eliminate redundancies and the remaining claims have been amended as necessary in view of the canceled claims.

As is apparent from the foregoing, the amendment presented above adopts the Board's Decision and places this application in condition for allowance.

Entry of this amendment is believed to be in order as is allowance of this application.

SUGIYAMA et al
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All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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